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(Signature)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

F. Abel Ponce de Leon et al.

Group Art Unit: 1633

Application No. 09/127,624

Examiner: M. Wilson

Filed: August 3, 1998

Title: PROLONGED CULTURING OF AVIAN (CHICKEN) PRIMORDIAL GERM CELLS (PGCs) USING SPECIFIC GROWTH FACTORS, USE THEREOF TO PRODUCE CHIMERIC AVIANS (CHICKENS) .

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AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
JAN 16 2002
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated October 12, 2001, kindly amend the application as follows.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 29 and 36 without prejudice.

Kindly consider the following amended claims:

Sub F1
1. (Twice Amended) A method for culturing avian primordial germ cells comprising maintaining said avian primordial germ cells for periods of at least fourteen days in tissue culture comprising the following steps:

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(i) isolating a pure population of primordial germ cells from a desired avian; and
(ii) exposing said isolated, pure population of primordial germ cells (PGCs) to at least the following growth factors in amounts sufficient to maintain said PGCs for at least fourteen days in culture:

- (1) leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF),
- (2) basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF),
- (3) stem cell factor (SCF), and
- (4) insulin-like growth factor (IGF).